National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather

MI-CW2304 David D. Kleweno, Director June 7, 2004

Improved Weather

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending June 6, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Limited rainfall and near normal temperatures facilitated drying of cropland and led to fieldwork progress in the primary crop growing areas of the State. Farmers reported they could have used an extra day or two of drying weather, but couldn't afford to wait. Corn and soybeans were being planted as soon as fields were passable. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.10 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 1.70 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula to normal in the central Lower Peninsula. Farmers in the southern portion of the State finally experienced several consecutive days of favorable weather. A producer in the Thumb said, "The ground dried enough to get back in the fields this week. By week's end, most all of the corn and soybean planters were out working." However, in the Upper Peninsula, growers commented that, "The weather is just starting to warm up. The fields are muddy and wet and most spring planted crops are two weeks behind."

Field Crops

Drier conditions across much of the State helped farmers make tillage and planting progress as they hurried to get crops in the ground. Due to all the previous rainfall, some leaching of fertilizers and herbicides was reported, limiting the earlier applications' effectiveness. **Corn** was being planted in as many areas as possible. Growers continued to switch to shorter day varieties. Earlier plantings continued to emerge and the drier, sunny weather helped green up plants. First cutting of **hay** began in earnest. Growers reported that, due to the weather delays, at least some of the crop had been pushed past its prime. The weather conditions allowed farmers to plant **soybeans** and the seasonal temperatures helped move germination along. The **wheat** crop progressed rapidly towards maturity. Growers were scouting fields for various diseases. Some outbreaks were reported and fungicides had been applied. **Sugarbeets** were cultivated and sprayed. Some fields required heavier applications of herbicide due to the wet weather delays. With the arrival of more favorable conditions, the **oat** crop started heading. **Dry bean** planting began.

Fruit

Cooler than normal temperatures throughout the State kept insect activity to a minimum on fruit crops. Light rain fell sporadically throughout the State last week. Isolated thunderstorms produced some hail, which caused limited damage to fruit in the southeast.

The primary infection period for apple scab has ended. In the southwest, fireblight was observed on **apple** trees. The most advanced fruit were greater than one inch in diameter. Apples were sizing well in the southeast. Some blossom blight symptoms were evident in the Grand Rapids area. Good fruit set was observed in the west central, despite poor conditions for pollination. **Plums** were at pit hardening in the southwest and shuck split in the west central. **Sweet cherries** grown in the southeast showed signs of bacterial canker. Brown rot infections were observed in the northwest. West central **blueberries** were in green fruit stage. **Raspberries** and **blackberries** were blooming in the southwest and southeast. Some leafroller and cane borer damage was apparent.

Vegetables

Drier conditions helped vegetable growers make some progress last week. Warmer temperatures later in the week also aided the progress of vegetable crops across the State. **Asparagus** harvest moved along. Almost 90 percent of the crop was harvested in the southwest. In the west central, yields were light due to the earlier cool temperatures. Purple spot and asparagus beetle were reported. Growers in several districts were transplanting and seeding **pumpkins** and **squash**. **Carrot** planting was at a critical stage as growers needed to get into the fields to kill the barley cover crop, but wet soils were delaying spraying. In the southeast, **sweet corn** progressed but was still yellowish; in the southwest, plantings under row covers were 14 to 16 inches tall and outside plantings were 8 to 10 inches. In the southeast, early planted **snap beans** looked surprisingly good, **cabbage** looked good but was facing some flea beetle pressure and farmers continued transplanting a wide variety of crops as weather permitted. In the southwest, **tomatoe**s in tunnels were in flower and being staked, while transplanted **cucumbers** were runnering and flowering. Transplanting of many vegetable crops also continued in the southwest.

Soil moisture for week ending 06/06/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Topsoil	0	0	70	30
Subsoil	1	2	72	25

Crop condition for week ending 06/06/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All Hay	0	9	30	46	15
Barley	0	8	57	28	7
Corn	2	11	38	43	6
Oats	1	8	32	46	13
Pasture	0	4	22	50	24
Soybeans	1	9	40	47	3
Winter Wheat	0	3	18	60	19

Crop progress for week ending 06/06/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All hay, first cutting	19	5	21	22
Asparagus, harvested	70	57	76	78
Barley, emerged	91	88	94	92
Corn, planted	84	77	94	94
Corn, emerged	67	65	68	79
Dry beans, planted	1	NA	NA	NA
Oats, headed	14	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes, planted	90	69	NA	NA
Potatoes, emerged	63	46	NA	NA
Soybeans, planted	60	45	75	76
Soybeans, emerged	39	33	38	53
Strawberries, harvested	29	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat, headed	63	56	32	66

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Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 06/06/04 [1]

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days [2]			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	75	34		310	365		1.60	2.52	5.13	7.76		
Marquette	74	36		268	346		1.81	2.72	5.89	8.81		
Stephenson	76	36		406	464		2.75	3.15	6.34	9.31		
Western UP	80	33	-3	306	368	365	1.70	2.50	5.06	7.45	6.20	3.61
Cornell	70	34		247	368		1.47	1.87	4.55	6.55		
Sault St Marie	69	36		191	331		1.39	1.76	5.00	7.43		
Eastern UP	76	29	-2	224	307	260	1.13	1.43	4.03	5.77	5.96	3.26
Beulah	75	37		398	409		1.59	2.02	6.03	10.91		
Lake City	76	36		425	398		0.79	1.07	5.67	11.67		
Old Mission	74	36		373	377		0.57	1.20	5.71	8.53		
Pellston	74	29		365	396		0.94	1.33	5.57	7.56		
Northwest	76	29	-2	374	376	432	0.90	1.32	5.47	9.00	5.80	3.03
Alpena	72	36		347	339		0.80	1.16	4.17	7.19		
Houghton Lake	74	37		440	434		0.27	0.31	5.61	10.68		
Rogers City	74	37		394	324		0.70	1.02	4.54	8.58		
Northeast	78	36	-1	409	394	406	0.77	1.04	4.81	9.19	5.76	2.90
Fremont	76	37		539	497		0.74	1.41	4.19	10.76		
Hart	76	37		484	420		0.90	1.49	5.23	11.22		
Muskegon	76	46		537	462		0.59	2.18	8.17	11.44		
West Central	76	36	-2	504	452	492	0.78	1.65	5.80	10.92	6.45	2.94
Alma	80	45		599	473		0.10	0.30	4.54	10.05		
Big Rapids	80	41		548	461		0.08	0.33	3.97	8.22		
Central	80	41	0	577	462	533	0.10	0.31	4.40	9.75	6.49	3.36
Bad Axe	79	39		482	330		0.00	0.04	3.03	9.63		
Pigeon	78	41		456	348		0.31	1.28	4.76	10.83		
Saginaw	79	41		544	424		0.22	0.27	5.02	10.00		
Standish	79	39		485	393		0.51	0.59	4.39	10.49		
East Central	80	39	-2	482	382	512	0.32	0.58	4.29	10.09	5.75	3.08
Fennville	80	46		601	455		0.28	1.53	6.03	8.71		
Grand Rapids	81	49		698	490		0.39	1.10	8.05	12.41		
Holland	78	48		609	460		0.35	1.53	4.25	7.03		
South Bend, IN	81	48		762	535		0.26	2.36	5.76	7.34		
Watervliet	80	47		654	488		0.04	1.58	5.12	7.04		
Southwest	83	34	-1	654	507	573	0.45	1.81	6.38	9.19	7.01	3.55
Belding	78	42		629	475		0.24	0.88	6.01	9.72		
Coldwater	77	44		645	464		0.41	0.57	4.43	6.99		
Lansing	78	43		649	501		0.11	0.83	7.73	11.05		
South Central	82	40	-1	654	511	574	0.35	1.16	6.46	9.98	6.75	3.57
Detroit	79	46		700	529		0.24	0.68	5.94	8.88		
Flint	80	45		687	514		0.90	1.37	6.33	9.11		
Romeo	78	45		621	453		0.28	0.42	5.88	10.61		
Tipton	78	44		657	505		0.06	0.91	4.48	7.09		
Toledo, OH	77	46		772	544		0.42	1.49	3.74	6.02		
Southeast	80	41	-1	664	508	547	0.29	0.93	5.10	8.69	6.68	3.36

[1] Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

[2] Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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